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New Literature

BOOKS

BOISSIER, G. *La coniuration de Catilina*. Paris: Hachette, 1905. Fr. 3.50.

A skilful rehandling of an old theme. M. Boissier deals with the facts of the case in chronological order: the preliminaries of the conspiracy, the consulship of Cicero, the conspiracy, the Catilinarian speeches, the Nones of December; but his presentation of the material is anything but a bald narrative. He has given us a fascinating picture of political and social life at Rome in the time of Cicero and Catiline.

MÜLLER, IWAN. *Karl Friedrich von Nägelsbach's lateinische Stilistik*. Neunte vermehrte u. verbesserte Auflage. Nürnberg: C. Geiger, 1905. Pp. 944. M. 12.

When this book was first published in 1846, it was intended for the use of teachers in the *Gymnasien* who were instructing classes in Latin prose composition. In the eight editions which have appeared since, the original plan of the work has not been lost sight of; but so much additional material has been added under the different categories (especially by Iwan Müller, who is responsible for the last four revisions) that the book is now indispensable to all classical specialists who would have an adequate idea of the dominant characteristics of Latin style.

PHILLIMORE, J. S. *P. Papini Stati Silvae*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1905. 3s. 6d.

One of the Oxford Classical Texts, equipped like its predecessors with an introduction dealing with the MSS, and with a brief critical apparatus accompanying the text.

WISSOWA, G. *Pauly's Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft*. X^{ter} Halbband. Donatio-Ephoroi. Stuttgart: J. B. Metzler, 1905. M. 15.

The excellence of this encyclopedia makes the slowness with which the work proceeds a matter of regret. It has taken two years to bring out this fascicle, and more than ten years to publish the first five volumes. At the present rate, the last fascicle will appear some fifteen years hence.

Among the many articles included in the present number are the following: "Dos" (Leonhard),

"Drachme" (Hultsch), "Dracontius" (Vollmer), "Dreifuss" (Reisch), "Duoviri" (Liebenam), "Edictum Diocletiani" (Bluemner), "Elegie" (Crusius), "Elogium" (v. Premerstein), and "Q. Ennius" (Skutsch).

As in the preceding numbers there are no illustrations and but few plans. This is perhaps the most serious defect in the work.

ARTICLES

MARUCCHI, O. *Scavi nelle catacombe romane*. *Notizie degli Scavi* 1905. 102-20.

Is devoted for the most part to a description of the inscriptions and paintings found in the cemetery of Commodilla during the excavations of 1904-5.

REINACH, SALOMON. *Xerxès et l'Hellespont*. *Revue archéologique*, Quatrième Série, VI (1905). 1-14.

The author's contention is that Herodotus' description of Xerxes' treatment of the Hellespont is based on a misunderstanding of the significance of the Persian king's actions. Reinach thinks that the fetters (probably made out of rings) which were flung into the strait were not intended to humiliate the powers of the waters, but symbolized the alliance which Xerxes wished to make with them. He compares the ring of Polycrates, that of the Venetian Doges, and others.

REINACH, THÉODORE. *Un fragment nouveau d'Alcée*. *Revue des études grecques* XVIII (1905). 295-99.

A study of two pieces of papyrus (belonging to the same leaf), found at the Fayûm and now in the museum of the University of Aberdeen. They contain parts of ten verses, which Reinach restores, and, mainly on account of a gloss which gives the name of the tyrant Myrsilus, assigns to Alcaeus.

USENER, H. *Sol Invictus*. *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie* LX (1905). 465-91.

A masterly article. Professor Usener, first traces the history of the cult of *Sol Invictus* among the Romans, then shows how the Christian church came to choose the day of the festival of this god, the twenty-fifth of December, as the birthday of Christ, the "Sun of Righteousness." He dates the first celebration of the Christian festival between 354 and 360.